



Introducing the
**PUERTO RICO
COMMUNITY SURVEY**



Beginning in October 2001, approximately 10,000 households will be selected to participate in the testing of a groundbreaking new survey, the Puerto Rico Community Survey, that will help identify community needs in Puerto Rico. When fully implemented in 2003, about 2.5 percent of households in Puerto Rico will be contacted by mail, phone, or in person to participate each year. No address will receive the survey more than once every five years. The survey will be conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau.

What is the Puerto Rico Community Survey?

The Puerto Rico Community Survey is the planned replacement for the census long form that has collected detailed information about the population every ten years. The Census Bureau will continue to count the population every ten years using a short form, but the long form for the 2010 census will be replaced by an annual survey, the Puerto Rico Community Survey, that will begin in 2003 pending approval of funding by the U.S. Congress.

What is the purpose of the Puerto Rico Community Survey? What information will it provide?

The purpose of the Puerto Rico Community Survey is to provide summarized information about population groups and areas on a wide range of topics that individuals, community organizations, elected officials, and the private sector can use for planning to meet their needs. The Puerto Rico Community Survey will provide the most timely and accurate facts ever available on topics such as age, gender, ethnicity, income, employment status, educational attainment, and housing costs. The information will be updated each year so that communities will have current data to make decisions about community needs.

Is the information households provide strictly confidential?

Absolutely. Only people sworn to protect the confidentiality of your information can see the responses on a survey form. Title 13 requires the Census Bureau to keep all information about respondents strictly confidential. Any Census Bureau employee who violates these provisions is subject to a fine of up to \$250,000, a prison sentence of up to five years, or both.

How will the participation of households help individuals and families?

The information each household provides can help create jobs; improve highways, housing, schools, and hospitals; and locate facilities, such as health clinics, where they are most needed.

Where can I find more information on the Puerto Rico Community Survey?

For more information, visit our Web site at www.census.gov/acs/www and click on "Puerto Rico" under "Spotlight", or E-mail us at acs@census.gov, or call us at 1-888-456-7215.

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